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Brian W. Hameder
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DOCKET: CU-2676

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT:	Kazuyuki MATSUMOTO et al.) Group Art Unit: 3724
SERIAL NO:	09/964,062) Examiner: John Windmuller
FILED:	September 26, 2001) <u>EXPEDITED PROCEDURE</u>
TITLE:	METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR CUTTING A SHEET-SHAPED MATERIAL) <u>AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL</u>

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THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
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AMENDMENT

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action dated February 12, 2004 and having a shortened statutory period for reply set to expire on May 12, 2004. Applicants submit the following responsive amendment in the above-identified application. Also submitted with this amendment is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) and Request for One-month Extension with the required fees, to extend the period of reply to June 12, 2004 (June 12, 2004 falls on a Saturday). Applicants believe this amendment places the application in better condition for allowance. Applicants' remarks are attached hereto and start on page 2.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please replace the claims with the attached amended claims.